

## Message Text

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TAGS: EINV, EMIN, PFOR, PE, US

SUBJ: MARCONA EXPROPRIATION - MINES MINISTER'S SPEECH AT

SAN NICOLAS

REF: LIMA 6092

1. MINES MINISTER FERNANDEZ MALDONADO DELIVERED ANOTHER OF HIS HARSH, VIOLENT SPEECHES AT SAN NICOLAS ON JULY 25 DURING MARCONA TAKEOVER CEREMONY. IF ANYTHING, HIS REMARKS WERE MORE EXTREME THAN THOSE HE HAD MADE THE DAY BEFORE. SALIENT POINTS FOLLOW:

A. "AT LAST WE HAVE NATIONALIZED MARCONA\* THIS MOMENT, AWAITED WITH PATIENCE AND HOPE BY THE WORKERS OF THIS AREA, HAS ARRIVED AT EXACTLY THE MOMENT AND IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH IT SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED"....."WHEN IT COMES TO TAKING POSITIONS BEFORE IMPERIALISM, NOTHING DETAINS THE PERUVIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR EMANCIPATORY REVOLUTION. BECAUSE, AS I SAID AT LA ORAYA A YEAR AND A HALF AGO ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONALIZATION OF THE CERRO DE PASCO CORPORATION, EACH VOCTORY OF THE PEOPLE, OF THE REVOLUTION IS A DEFEAT FOR IMPERIALISM. THE IMPERIALISTIC GRASP OF THE MARCONA MINING COMPANY HAS BEEN

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ERRADICATED BY THE INEXORABLE ADVANCE OF OUR REVOLUTION TO

MAKE THIS SOIL FREE OF OPPRESSION AND INJUSTICE".

B. FERNANDEZ MALDONADO WENT ON TO SAY THAT, WHILE NO ONE COULD DISPUTE THE JUSTICE OF PERU'S ACTION WHEN MARCONA WAS NATIONALIZED, IT IS LEGITIMATE TO ASK WHY THE GOP CHOSE THE PRESENT MOMENT AND DID NOT ACT BEFORE OR AFTER. HOWEVER, THE GOP HAD THE COUNTRY'S INTEREST IN MIND, AND WAITED UNTIL "OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS" INDICATED THAT THE TIME WAS RIPE. "THAT WHICH HAD TO BE CONFIRMED WAS CONFIRMED. THE MARCONA PROPOSAL THAT HAD TO ARRIVE, ARRIVED. AND (AS WAS TO HAVE BEEN EXPECTED) BY ITS CHARACTER AS A TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISE, (THE PROPOSAL) WAS UNACCEPTABLE, AND WE PLAINLY AND SIMPLY REJECTED IT."

C. FERNANDEZ MALDONADO EXPLAINED THAT IMPERIALISM IS VERY WILELY AND THAT AT FIRST IT TRIES TO FIND ITS WAY AROUND A REVOLUTION. WHEN IT DISCOVERS THAT IT CANNOT DO SO, IT RESORTS TO BLACKMAIL AND INTERNATIONAL THREATS, BUT IT DOES NOT DO SO OPENLY. IMPERIALISM RESORTS WITH MALIGN SUBTLETY TO PROSTITUTING THE LAW BY MEANS OF LEGAL ARTIFICES, OPPOSING THAT WHICH IS RIGHT AND INVERTING BASIC HUMAN VALUES, DISTORTING THE LAW SO THAT IT INVARIABLY FAVORS IMPERIALISM. "FOR THAT PURPOSE (IMPERIALISTS) KNOW HOW TO WIN OVER CONSCIENCES. THEY KNOW HOW TO BUY THEM AT A HIGH PRICE, AND IN A... DEGRADATION OF HUMAN VALUES, THEY PURCHASE THAT LEGALISTIC AND SURRENDERING PSEUDO LAW, (AN ACTION) TO WHICH MANY BAD PERUVIANS HAVE LENT THEMSELVES, CONTRIBUTING BY THEIR ACTS AND BY THEIR LEGAL SOPHISTRY TO THE DEGRADATION OF THE ...HONEST LEGAL PROFESSION..."

D. THE MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY THE REASON THE GOP WAITED SO LONG WAS THAT IT TOOK TIME TO TRANSFORM THE OLD INJUST LEGAL SYSTEM OF THE PAST INTO A NEW SYSTEM OF JUSTICE AND REASON. WITH THE EXPROPRIATION OF MARCONA, "WE HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT THE TRIUMPH OF LAW OVER ANTI-LAW, OF JUSTICE OVER INJUSTICE, OF REASON OVER THE IRRATIONALITY OF THE PETTY LAWYERS, OF TRUTH OVER FALSEHOOD, OF REVOLUTION OVER ANTI-REVOLUTION, AND OF LIBERTY OVER IMPERIALISTIC OPPRESSION. THOSE WHO SELL THEIR CONSCIENCE, THOSE WHO TRAFFIC WITH THEIR KNOWLEDGE, THOSE WHO SELL THEIR COUNTRY FOR A MESS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POTTAGE, HAVE NO WAILING WALL TO LEAN AGAINST, BUT RATHER THE JUST REPUDIATION OF THE WORKERS AND OF ALL PERU. THAT IS THE PRICE OF TREASON AND FAITHLESSNESS....I REFER BY NAME TO THOSE PERUVIANS WHO LEGALLY DEFENDED WITH THEIR NAMES AND PRESENCE THE FRAGILE AND ANTI-PERUVIAN ARGUMENTS OF THE MARCONA MINING COMPANY, TO THOSE PRETENDED PERUVIANS WHO SERVED AS A BRIDGE AND POINT OF CORRUPT CONTACT WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE PAST..."

E. THE MINISTER WENT ON TO AN ATTACK ON CAPITALISM IN GENERAL. "CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM HAVE A CORROSIVE AND DEVASTATING EFFECT ON THE HUMAN CONSCIENCE. THEY PROSTITUTE IT, THEY SUBMERGE IT IN EGOISM, THEY DEBASE IT, THEY WITHER IT, AND THEY ASSASSINATE IT MORALLY AND PHYSICALLY. (CAPITALISM) DIVIDES SOCIETY INTO EXPLOITERS AND EXPLOITED, AND WHEN IT ACCUMULATES IMMENSE POWER (BY EXPLOITING) THE BODIES AND HUNGER OF MILLIONS OF BEINGS, IT TRANSNATIONALIZES ITSELF, IT IMPERIALIZES ITSELF, AND IT SPREADS ITSELF OVER AN IMMENSE CEMETARY OF IMPLACABLE HATE AND OPPRESSION." PER THE MINISTER SAID, IS ESCAPING FROM THIS SOCIETY.

F. FERNANDEZ MALDONADO REVIEWED PREVIOUS EXPROPRIATIONS, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS ACTS OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY, AND SAID THAT ONLY THOSE BLINDED BY ULTRALEFTISM AND BY CAPITALISM COULD FAIL TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES. THE MINISTER THEN SPOKE OF THE VOCATION OF BEING REVOLUTIONARY AND THAT PERU WOULD DEMAND NEW QUALITIES IN NEW MEN. "A PROLETARIATE WITHOUT A GREATER IDEAL THAN A REDUCTION IN HOURS AND AN INCREASE IN SALARIES WILL NEVER BE CAPABLE OF A GREAT HISTORICAL ENTERPRISE." THESE WORDS, SAID THE MINISTER, WERE NOT HIS NOR THE GOVERNMENT'S; THEY WERE THE WORDS OF MARIATEGUI (FOUNDER OF PERUVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY), THE MINISTER WENT ON TO PRAISE MARIATEGUI FOR HIS BRILLIANCE AND SOCIAL CONSCIENCE.

G. MINISTER CLOSED SPEECH BY LIKENING EXPROPRIATION OF MARCONA TO THE BATTLES OF LIBERATION AND BY COMPARING PERUVIAN REVOLUTION TO "THOSE GLORIOUS FIGHTING REVOLUTIONARIES OF OTHER LATITUDES, INCLUDING THOSE WHO OFFERED THEIR LIVES IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST DOMINATION AND AGAINST....FASCISM AND IMPERILISM". THE MARCONA EXPROPRIATION, SAID THE MINISTER, IS AN ANTI-IMPERIALIST VICTORY.  
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2. COMMENT: FERNANDEZ MALDONADO'S REMARKS ARE QUOTED AT SOME LENGTH SINCE THEY ARE THE STRONGEST ATTACKS AGAINST "IMPERIALISM" BY A GOP MINISTER THAT WE CAN RECALL. THEY ARE NOTEWORTHY FOR THEIR SUMMARY DISMISSAL OF MARCONA'S PROPOSAL AS ALL THAT WAS TO BE EXPECTED OF A "TRANSNATIONAL", FOR THEIR ATTACK ON EXISTING LAW WHICH WAS UNJUST UNTIL TRANSFORMED, AND FOR THEIR PERSONAL MENACE TOWARD THE "BAD PERUVIANS" WHO HAD WORKED WITH MARCONA WITHIN THE EXISTING LEGAL STRUCTURE. ALSO, IT IS THE FIRST OCCASION WE CAN RECALL ON WHICH A MINISTER HAS OPENLY PAID HOMAGE TO MARIATEGUI AND BY INDIRECTION TO THE PERUVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY. THE ONLY NOTABLE OMISSION IN HIS ATTACK WAS A DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT MARCONA AND "IMPERIALISM" ARE PRACTICALLY SYNONYMOUS, AND DIRECT REFERENCE WAS UNNECESSARY.

3. FERNANDEZ MALDONADO'S VENOM IS IN DISTINCT CONTRAST WITH THE MORE MEASURED TONES OF PRESIDENT VELASCO'S EXPROPRIATION MESSAGE AND HIS TREATMENT OF THE SUBJECT IN HIS INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH. IT ALSO CONTRASTS WITH VELASCO'S CRITICISM OF COMMUNISM IN THAT SAME SPEECH. FERNANDEZ MALDONADO SEEMS OUT OF STEP, BUT WHAT THIS MEANS AS FAR AS COMPENSATION FOR MARCONA IS CONCERNED IS UNCLEAR.  
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